



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA: SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 22, 1859.

The New York Herald says that the Black Republican party are not as yet decided, as to their course in relation to the movements concerning Cuba. It proposes to learn from authentic private correspondence that were Governor Banks, of Massachusetts, in Congress, he would favor the proposition of the administration; but none of his conferees who are there, have made up their minds about the matter. Gerritt Smith, and that wing of the party, we believe, are Cuban acquisitionists, for purposes of their own. Our opinion is, that, in a few years, the Black Republicans, if that party shall exist under that name, or the Abolition party, of the North, will, almost to a man, become "Manifest-Destiny-Acquisition-Annektion people," and will contend for the practical application of the doctrine North as well as South. The game will be found to suit them very well. The Southern States, as the most conservative portion of the Union, should now make a stand against the principle. They have nothing, in reality, to gain in the future of the "Manifest-Destiny" policy.

The Washington States takes issue at once with the Washington Union, as to the TARIFF article (referred to by us, a few days ago), and asks "what response have Democrats to this new manifestation from the 'official organ' of the party?—what says the President to so unequivocal and emphatic an avowal of Federal heresy by his favorite journal?—is Mr. Cobb content with the point blank protest against the philosophy of his most admirable opponent?—Indeed, the States does not hesitate to say, that the Union, in its Tariff views, is "betraying the principles of the Democratic party." Who is to decide?

We have received the first number of the Virginia Index, to be published semi-weekly, and weekly, in Richmond, Va., by Messrs. Dewitt, Ellis, and Goodie, and edited by Mr. Dewitt, whose experience and abilities are acknowledged and appreciated. It will be a Democratic journal, but much of its space will be devoted to Virginia interests and State matters. Without expecting to agree much with it in its politics, we wish it every success.

The reader will not fail to notice the scathing review of the President's course, with regard to the Pacific Railroad, given by the Richmond Enquirer, and copied into to-day's Gazette. To find arguments for opposing the present administration, in almost all its measures of foreign and domestic policy, it is hardly necessary now-a-days to go farther than to the best Democratic journals in the country.

At the night session of the House of Representatives, on Thursday night, speeches were made by Mr. Purviance, of Pennsylvania, in favor of specific duties; by Mr. Thompson, of New York, in explanation of the views of the Republican party; and by Messrs. Phelps and Cavanaugh, of Minnesota, in regard to the importance of the pre-emption law.

Arrangements are in progress for the taking of the next United States Census.—The last one was intended to be one of the most complete ever taken, but it was completed only in its extraneous cost. Portions of the statistical information then collected, have not yet been published.

Many friends will read with regret, the notice under our obituary head, of the death of the wife of the late Gen. Henderson. She never recovered from the shock occasioned by the sudden and unexpected decease of her husband. She was a native of this place, and esteemed by all who knew her.

An explosion occurred at Dupont's Gunpowder Mills, near Wilmington, Del., on the 20th inst. The shock was very heavy, one of the houses was knocked down, a large quantity of powder destroyed, and two men were killed.

The Washington Union urges the immediate admission of Oregon as a State of the Union. It admits that there is a difficulty, as to its population—but contends that it has at least an approximation to the proper number of inhabitants.

After much discussion and various efforts to amend it, the bill to amend the "act granting the right of pre-emption to settlers on the public lands of the United States," was rejected in the House of Representatives, on Thursday, by a vote of 91 to 95.

The Medical faculty of Georgetown College offer a reward of \$50 for the apprehension of the party or parties who recently placed a partially dissected body on the steps in front of their Institution.

The property of the Bay State Mills, in Lawrence, was sold at auction on the 20th, for \$500,000. The Washington Mills Company, successors to the Bay State Company, were the purchasers.

It is said that Mr. Stewart, United States marshal for Georgia, has been removed, on the grounds, it is stated, of not exercising sufficient vigilance in regard to the yacht Wanderer case.

An establishment in Baltimore, for counterfeiting half and quarter dollars, has been found out, and broken up, and one of the counterfeiter arrested.

Power's statue of Daniel Webster, has arrived in Boston.

Additional letters from Dr. Livingstone, the African explorer, are published in the Cape papers. In one to Governor Sir George Grey, he speaks of the obstacles in his way, remarking that if he could travel as geographers do, with a pair of compasses, he might have been at his place of destination long ago.—The engine of his steam vessel consumes an enormous quantity of fuel, and when they have no coal, half their time is spent in wood-cutting. This, however, led to their discovering lignumvite, with ebony, teak, and African oak. The river is deeper than anticipated, and with vessels of light draught might be navigated for the greater portion of the year. With a plentiful use of quinine the expedition has been kept free from sickness, and with care in going up the Tete, sickness may be avoided, and beyond is the healthy country. The Cape Town Argus says that Capt. Redingford, of the Royal navy, who accompanied the expedition as surveyor, has resigned.

The Virginia Index, speaking of the opposition to the Democratic party, in Virginia, says:—"We must not underrate the strength and resources of our adversaries. Although they have lost much of their former strength by death and desertion, yet we are forced to admit that they are this day strong enough to be formidable. They are still respectable in numbers, and embrace in their ranks many of the most enlightened and distinguished citizens of our State. They have, in a word, the material for a strong organization, and the material for a strong Congressional district, and the State at large, should become divided between contending chieftains and cliques, the politics of the Old Dominion may undergo a change sooner than anybody now supposes."

Lord Elgin, the British Minister in China, has projected an expedition up the Yangtze river, in China, which promises many interesting results. With a squadron of steam corvettes and gunboats, six in number, and with the consent of the Chinese authorities, he is going as far as Hangchow, the principal commercial emporium on the river, five hundred miles from its mouth, and more than three hundred miles above Nanking, hitherto the utmost limit of "outside barbarian" navigation. The New York Post says—"The Yangtze is called the Mississippi of China, but, as it drains about a third of China, the population on its banks must be eight or ten times as much as that on the Mississippi."

The Milwaukee fugitive slave case was before the U. S. Supreme Court on Wednesday, the Attorney-General moving the Court to reverse the decision of the Supreme Court of the state of Wisconsin, which had pronounced the fugitive slave law unconstitutional. Wisconsin did not appear by counsel, on the ground, it is said, that that state does not recognize the authority of the Supreme Court of the United States in the matter!! Wonder how that would have been had the Supreme Court of the state decided otherwise than it did.

On Monday evening last, at South Franklin, Mass., was stated in a telegraphic dispatch published yesterday, a young man named Jonathan Wales, a rejected lover of a young lady named Susan V. Whiting, murdered her as she was returning from a party, by shooting her through the head with a pistol. The unfortunate girl never spoke after receiving the fatal wound. The murderer ran off immediately after committing the act, and was found the next day in a secluded spot, dead, after having shot himself through the body.

The Richmond Whig says:—"The quantity of flour inspected in Richmond, last year, exceeded 650,000 bbls., so that if the inspector obtained one cent's worth of flour from each barrel—which is believed to be below the market—his income from this source alone would be \$6,500. He is authorized by law to charge an inspection fee of one cent, per bbl. Out of his aggregate income he pays the salaries of deputies, hire of negroes, office rent, etc.

In a late speech in the U. S. Senate, Sam Houston pertinently inquired how the disunionists proposed to divide the Union? Will they cut the great Mississippi in two? Who is to have the mouth of it? Who is to command its source? Will the West be prohibited the privilege of commanding the great outlet of that river, where their productions are boundless, and float on its bosom every day in the year?

The Rev. Mr. Sullivan, a Catholic priest, of Charleston, S. C., paid over to a lady of that city on Monday, the sum of \$200, received through the confessional. He received it from a person who said it was to satisfy an indebtedness rightfully due the heirs of the lady's father. The debt had remained unpaid for at least a period of twenty-five years, as the parent of the lady has been dead over twenty years.

The Canadian authorities, it is now understood, will not demand Deputy Marshal Tyler for trial in their courts. The Windsor Herald says:—"In this instance the vessel and the men were all Americans, and the murdered were immediately transferred to an American port, where the victim died and the homicide gave himself up to justice."

Geo. C. Whiting, esq., Commissioner of Pensions, has made another important haul of pension-papers forgers; in this case in Wisconsin. In 1856, it will be recollected, the Commissioner of Pensions broke up a similar gang located in Arkansas, arresting two of three partners in the nefarious business.

The United States Court at Charleston, has refused to turn Captain Corrie of the yacht Wanderer, over to the jurisdiction of the U. S. States Court in Georgia, but grants an order for his arrest, and orders that his trial take place within the limits of the jurisdiction wherein he is arrested.

It is stated that the "Solidified Milk" Company's factory in Burrville, Connecticut, consumes from 1,700 to 2,500 quarts of milk a day, which is bought from the farmers at three cents a quart in winter and two cents in summer; and the farmers at that price make more than they can from butter and cheese.

The Southern papers announce the death of the Hon. James E. Belsor, some years ago an able and highly esteemed Representative in Congress from the State of Alabama. He died at Montgomery, on Sunday evening last.

The United States Revenue Cutter Washington, Lieut. E. O. Warden, commanding, had proceeded to sea yesterday, to cruise for any vessel that may be in distress.

Col. T. H. Flood, at the request of Whigs and Democrats, is again a candidate for the State Senate, from the Lynchburg district.

Col. Francis Lee, U. S. Army, died at St. Louis, on the 19th instant.

At the celebration of Franklin's birthday in New York, Mr. W. H. Fry responded to the toast of the Telegraph, the Pen and the Press. In speaking of the telegraph, he said he thought it would have a beneficial effect in correcting our tendency to verbosity. A friend of his went the other day to St. Louis, and wishing to be especially endearing, sent a dispatch to his wife, asking, "What have you for breakfast, and how is the baby?" She telegraphed back, "Buckwheat cakes and the measles."

At Louisville, last Friday, a man calling himself Norton, and representing to belong to New Orleans, passed on W. E. Snoddy, a forged check, purporting to be drawn by Messrs. Rockford, Brown & Co., on the Citizens' Bank of New Orleans, and certified by that bank. He obtained \$1,800 in money, \$2,000 in Harding county Railroad bonds, and Mr. Snoddy's note for the remainder.—He also disposed of other forged checks of less value.

A German clergyman by way of giving point to a eulogy of a dead man at a funeral, declared that his own experience would prove that the defunct was the most generous of men, as he had long ago borrowed forty dollars of him, of which to his dying day he had never asked the payment. Of the debt thus acknowledged before witnesses, however, he heirs the next day, demanded the payment with interest!

A misunderstanding has arisen between the New York and Erie and other parties to the railroad convention of the four great east and west lines made last fall. The complaints are understood to come from Mr. Morgan, the president of the Erie, and at the instance of Mr. Burrow, the umpire on the subject of difference, all four lines are to be represented at a meeting to be held in Baltimore on the 26th.

Claims Against Foreign Governments. WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The President sent to the Senate to-day, in compliance with a resolution of that body, a document showing the condition of our unsettled claims against foreign governments, together with those which have been adjusted. By a hasty glance at the paper, it appears that Captain William Webster presents a bill against Great Britain for over \$6,500,000 for indemnity for lands purchased from the chief of New Zealand, and of which he was dispossessed by English officers. Claims are also urged by other parties against that government for damages done to lawful commerce by the seizure and sale of vessels.

Russia.—Against this government there are, in cases, one for \$15,000 and the other for \$25,000, both conferred by J. W. Perkins of Massachusetts, charging a violation of a contract for arms furnished during the Crimean war.

France, too, has unsettled claims. She has rejected several, including that of the owners of the ship America, for loss and damage sustained in 1839 for violating the blockade of Buenos Ayres, and property thereby destroyed.

Robt. A. Parish tenders a bill for 15,000,000 francs in fulfillment of a verbal agreement entered into by M. Fould and the Minister of France, and confirmed by the Emperor, to pay him this amount upon the demonstration of the existence of gold mines similar to those of California, and accessible to the French army, as soon as the French flag can be raised in token of sovereignty in any part of the territory indicated. He alleges his performance and hence seeks for pay.

Spain.—There is a long account against her. Two claims involve nearly \$1,000,000 for an alleged violation of contracts, and a formidable list is preferred from loss of vessels by capture. John S. Thrasler, of Cuba notoriety, whose case was involved in political questions, claims \$350,000, while there are eighty cases for losses and damage caused by the repeal of the Cuban ordinance of 1844, admitting provisions and lumber free of duty from the United States.

Mexico.—There is a list against her of large settled or unsettled claims.

Belgium has settled her accounts for losses of property at Antwerp by the bombardment. There are 21 such claims.

Holland and Denmark have not yet made satisfaction.

Prussia is asked to make an explanation for the arrest and ill-treatment of a naturalized citizen, who returned to his native country, and was held liable for military duty, due before his emigration. This is one of a number of similar cases.

Austria has little to answer for.

Rome comes next. N. B. Campbell complains of being turned out of a vessel Veschia in an insulting manner, and falsely accused of forging a visa to his passport. The matter has been referred to our minister.

Turkey.—From this government John Reeves claims for loss and damage sustained by an alleged non-fulfillment of a contract for building vessels of war at Constantinople. As to the Dixon outrage at Jaffa, reparation is promised.

Greece.—There is nothing against this government. She has paid Jonas W. King for the loss and damage sustained by imprisonment and exile.

Naples and Sardinia have small accounts to settle.

China.—There is a long and heavy list against her, on account of damages and losses for shipping principally.

The Fejee Islanders have through a commission, arranged for spoils and thefts, but it is not yet ascertained that the awards have been paid.

Haiti has not settled her accounts, Guatemala now owes nothing. Nicaragua.—There are numerous cases against this country, including claims for property destroyed at Greytown by the bombardment.

Costa Rica.—All the claims against that government are unadjusted.

Salvador has two unsettled cases to meet. The state of claims is next stated against New Granada, Venezuela, Ecuador, Chili, Brazil, Buenos Ayres, Uruguay and Paraguay. The last named has the longest list. Ecuador has only one case.

The Whig State Convention. It is only three weeks from today to the assembling of our State Convention, and those of our friends which have not yet held meetings and appointed Delegates, should do so without a moment's unnecessary delay. The prospect for a large and glorious gathering of the unflinching Whigs and Americans of the State, is as bright as present as heart could wish; but still nothing should be left undone, that may be necessary to be done, in order to render the Convention as imposing in numbers, in influence, and in enthusiasm as possible. And hence the urgency with which we continue to press upon the consideration of our friends throughout the State, the importance and necessity of availing themselves of the earliest opportunity that may offer for appointing Delegates.—Richmond Whig.

The Pacific Railroad Question Discussed.—The Action of the Democratic Convention.—The President's Course Condemned.

[From the Richmond Enquirer.] Before entering upon the discussion of the constitutional question involved, we propose to consider an issue of fact. Does the Cincinnati platform pledge the Democratic party to the recognition of the constitutionality of Federal appropriations to the construction of the Pacific Railroad?

Let us see what the Cincinnati Convention really did on this question, and how it was done. The proposed platform of the Democratic party was reported to the Convention, and when laid before the Convention, the report was authenticated by the signature of the Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions. The resolutions thus reported were adopted by the Convention, without alteration or omission.

The authorized report of the proceedings of the Convention, also sets forth a report of an additional resolution. How this was reported, or by whom, does not appear. Certainly it was not accompanied with the signature of the Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions. This resolution, entitled a "resolution with respect to overland communication with the Pacific," reads as follows:

Resolved, That the Democratic party recognize the great importance, in a political and commercial point of view, of a safe and speedy communication, by military and postal roads, through our own territory, between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of this Union, and that it is the duty of the Federal Government to exercise promptly all its constitutional power for the attainment of that object.

Now it is evident that this resolution in no manner assumes the constitutional powers of Congress to appropriate lands or money to the construction of a military or postal road to the Pacific. It merely insists that the Federal Government shall employ such constitutional powers as it possesses for the attainment of that object. What are the constitutional powers in question, by means of which any aid, incidental or otherwise, can be extended, the resolution does not attempt to describe—leaving these powers to the same exposition which the Democratic party had always applied. The resolution carefully abstains from recognizing any constitutional power in Congress, to construct, or to appropriate lands or money to the construction of a Pacific Railroad. More than that, the resolution, by its own terms, excludes the construction that such powers can be exercised, if applied to the construction of a road to the Pacific. It states that the Atlantic and Pacific are to be placed in the category of postal and military roads. Now even Mr. Buchanan, or Senator Davis, will not pretend that the power to "establish post roads," involves a power to construct them, or to appropriate land or money to their construction. The Democratic doctrine in this respect has been fixed beyond the possibility of cavil. Among roads already constructed, Congress has the power to select the best for mail transportation and to "locate" them as post roads. Any other construction of the word "establish," would attribute to Congress an unlimited power to construct internal improvements throughout the Union. Moreover, military and postal roads are classed together in the resolution above quoted, and it cannot be pretended to construe the mention of one in a justification of internal improvements by the Federal Government, without applying the same construction to the other.

The most, then, that can be said for the resolution, is that it denies all power to construct, or to appropriate lands or money for construction, it leaves room for the implication that Congress may exercise some other powers, not specified, by which to aid or encourage the construction by private enterprise and private means.

Nevertheless, both Pennsylvania and Virginia, were unwilling to offer opportunity even for this narrow implication; and on the motion of a delegate from Delaware, (Mr. Salisbury), the resolution was laid on the table, by a vote of 154 to 129.

Afterwards, a delegate from California, (Mr. Inge), moved for a suspension of the rules with a view to reconsider the vote laying this resolution on the table. Pennsylvania and Virginia again interposed, casting unit votes against Mr. Inge's motion, which was lost—yeas 121, nays 175.

Thus, the resolution was twice defeated before the Convention. And this occurred previous to the nomination of Mr. Buchanan. After the Presidential nomination was made, the same resolution was again brought before the Convention. Mr. Thompson, of Mississippi, moved to lay it on the table.—The vote of Virginia was cast as a unit for Mr. Thompson's motion. Pennsylvania voted as a unit against it. The motion was lost. Immediately, a member of the Virginia delegation, Mr. Fisher, of Northampton, taxed the Pennsylvania delegation with unfaithfulness to their pledges—reminding them that Mr. Buchanan never could have obtained the vote of Virginia for his nomination, except with the understanding that the Pennsylvania delegation pledged him and themselves to unopposed opposition to every resolution which the party in a resolution of Federal competency consented to the construction of a Pacific Railroad.

Mr. Phelps, of Missouri, then moved to suspend the rules, with a view to bring the Convention to a direct vote on the resolution. Virginia voted as a unit against the resolution. Six of the Pennsylvania delegation also voted against it. The motion, however, was carried.

Mr. Fisher again expostulated with the remaining members of the Pennsylvania delegation. Mr. Inge then moved the adoption of the resolution. Virginia voted as a unit in the negative. Pennsylvania cast 21 votes in the negative. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 235 to 57.

Thus, the resolution was finally adopted, in spite of Virginia, in spite of Pennsylvania, in spite of two previous rejections by the whole Convention, and by the votes of men who did not venture to advocate it, when they desired to conciliate the votes of staunch strict-constructionists for their several favorite aspirants to the nomination.

Not only, then, does the resolution itself affirm such construction as that now attributed to it by the President—not only does it virtually deny the power of Congress to construct, or to appropriate land or money to the construction of a Pacific Railroad; but the unfair manner of its adoption deprives even the leaning towards the exercise of incidental powers, which might otherwise be added, of all force or respect whatsoever. It constitutes no part of the Democratic platform. And even if it had been fairly inserted, it would afford no justification at all for the position which the President has since assumed.

Mr. Buchanan knew then, as well as he does now, that he never could have been nominated at Cincinnati, had he previously made known to the people of Virginia the views which he now publishes on the subject of the Pacific Railroad. He accepted their support with a full knowledge of the understanding with which it was accorded. He thus pledged himself to the views of the people of Virginia on this question. The action of the Pennsylvania delegation at Cincinnati confirmed the pledge. Nay, the very resolution to which he has since referred, if carried, would place at all pledge him to the same position as he now occupies. He was elected to the power to construct, or to appropriate lands or money to the construction of a Pacific Railroad. And he was still further pledged by his own voluntary and express avowal.

On the 9th of June, 1856, in a speech before the Keystone Club, Mr. Buchanan gave the following unqualified pledge: "Now that I have been placed upon a platform, of which I most heartily approve, and being the representative of the great Democratic party, and not simply James Buchanan, I must surely give my candid and cool opinion on the subject of the Pacific Railroad. I am not a member of the Democratic party, but I am a member of the Democratic platform. That platform is our only broad and national for the whole Democratic party."

And yet, three months had scarcely elapsed, before Mr. Buchanan pronounced the following letter: WHEELING, (DEPT. LANCASTER) PA., September 17, 1856. To B. F. WASHINGTON, esq., Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee of California. SIR:—I have received numerous communications from sources in California entitled to high regard, in reference to the proposed Pacific Railroad. As it would be impossible for me to answer them all, I deem it most proper and respectful to address you on the one case of particular interest. In performing this duty to the citizens of California, I act in perfect consistency with the self-imposed restriction contained in my letter accepting the nomination for the Presidency, not to answer in any way the one case of particular interest. In performing this duty to the citizens of California, I act in perfect consistency with the self-imposed restriction contained in my letter accepting the nomination for the Presidency, not to answer in any way the one case of particular interest.

I then desire to state, briefly, that concerning the construction of the Pacific Railroad, and I derive the authority to do this from the constitutional power "to declare war," and the constitutional duty "to regulate commerce." In my judgment, Congress possesses the same power to make appropriations for the construction of this road, strictly for the purpose of national defense, that it has to erect fortifications at the mouth of the harbor of San Francisco. Indeed, the necessity, with a view to repel foreign invasion from California is as great as the one case of particular interest. Neither will there be danger from the president, for it is almost impossible to conceive that any case attended by such extraordinary and unprecedented circumstances can ever again occur in our history. Yours, very respectfully, JAMES BUCHANAN.

As we have shown, the Cincinnati Convention not only omitted to assert the power of the Federal Government to construct a Pacific Railroad, but the delegates assembled in convention, denied in toto the possibility of a rightful exercise of such power. At all events, it cannot be pretended that Mr. Inge's resolution, itself, asserted any power in the Federal Government to construct the road. There was no such plank in the platform. And after the pledge given to the party in the speech before the Keystone Club, by including the Democratic platform by his avowal, to "accept no other plank" in the platform, he did volunteer to add a new plank—entirely inconsistent with the main body of the platform; one embodying views which he knew would have defeated his nomination, had they been expressed sooner; one in point of variance with the known understanding of the people of Virginia, who secured his nomination, without whose aid he certainly would have refused their aid, had they been rightly advised of Mr. Buchanan's intentions.

It is a part from all this, the manner in which Mr. Buchanan attempted to force this new plank into the Democratic platform, is especially open to just exception. It will be observed, that his letter was written on the 17th of September. In justice to public information, it should have been published at once to the whole country; this was not done. It was mailed to California, in such manner that it could not be published on this side the Rocky Mountains, except on the very eve of the election, and was not published here until after the election.

We cannot approve the President's course in this matter. Still less can we approve the doctrine which he expounds. To our mind, it is more objectionable, more latitudinarian, more "federal," than any constitutional exposition to be found in all the writings of the elder Adams, or even of Alexander Hamilton.

Politics of the Day.—The Slave Question.—The Democratic Party.—What has the South Gained?

[From the Lynchburg Virginian.] As the Presidential election approaches, the Democracy are again raising the cry that there must be an union of the South for the purpose of resisting a sectional party of the North. They are again repeating the old song, that the rights of the South are in danger, and that no other party, saving and excepting the Democracy, is capable of defending and protecting those rights from the inroads of Abolitionism.

We believe it is more from the force of habit than anything else, that the Democracy resort to this old plea. They surely do not mean to say that the rights of the South are any more secure now—or any less in danger—than they were twenty years ago. Though the Democracy have been in undisturbed possession of the Government for thirty years (excepting the Presidency for a brief period), and though the South has been losing ground, comparatively, all the time, the party still has the assurance to claim that it is the only one capable of protecting Southern institutions.

Passing that the Democracy will, in the next Presidential canvass, repeat the old story about their peculiar "soundness" in respect of Southern rights, our able contemporary of the Nashville Patriot proceeds to block their game at once, by showing up the hollow and insincerity of their professions, and the deep wrong that has been inflicted upon the South by the continual agitation of the slavery question for party purposes. We cordially endorse the language of our contemporary, as follows:—

What, then, have the people of the South gained, in respect of their territorial rights, in confiding, and cooperating with the Democratic party of the North? Nothing! What have they gained in respect of their territorial rights by putting the Democratic party in power throughout the South? Nothing. The people of the South have gained nothing at all; but their own immediate leaders who misled and deceived them in regard to the opinions and intentions of their Northern brethren, and the potency of the Democratic organization to guard, and protect, and enforce Southern rights—these leaders have gained, by the deception, power, and place, and honor, and glory.

The South, thus, has become nearly a unit in party politics—a Democratic unit. That result will no doubt be claimed by the Democratic leaders and organs of the South as a point of the utmost importance, and of the greatest advantage in a political point of view. But this union of the South has been followed, as the slightest sagacity might have foreseen, by a union of the North! If the Democrats of the South have succeeded in uniting the South by dint of slavery agitation, they have also succeeded in uniting the North against them. We say they have, because the Democratic leaders of the South, for to them, to the course they have pursued, for their continued agitation of the subject of slavery for unworthy, unpatriotic, improper party purposes, is the origin, rise, growth and present gigantic dimensions of the Republican party owing.

Mr. Hale, if our memory serves us, stated in the Senate, that he was indebted to President Pierce for this result, by his meaning, that it was the reopening of slavery agitation, under President Pierce's auspices, that enabled him to come back to the Senate.

Mr. Seward, in his Rochester speech, boasted that whereas, but a short time ago, there were but three of his set in the Senate, and six in the House of Representatives, there were now twenty of them in the Senate and a hundred in the House. Thus, on the subject of slavery agitation prepared and cultivated by Southern Democratic politicians for the most selfish party purposes, did there spring up in a night, as it were, full grown, this gigantic plant of Republicanism—its roots quickly extending themselves deep, deep down in the Northern soil, and its branches spreading over the whole Northern land.

Not only did the Southern Democratic leaders thus force into existence and build up the Republican party, but they, or the most of them, are far from desiring to see that organization broken up, and would be very far from pursuing any course of policy, the tendency of which would be to break it up. They want to retain their power at the South, and they want the Republican party to sear the honest people of the South with, and to frighten them into remaining united under their lead; and if need be they will present new and further slavery issues for the express purpose of keeping up agitation, and thereby keeping the Republican party together—thus playing into the hands of Mr. Seward, and other ultra leaders of his party.

But what will the people of the South say to so impudently a course of policy? Can they see nothing in the degraded, in the near proximity to the humiliating danger of the North, and the South being divided into two sectional parties? Have they any thing to gain by it? Haven't they—haven't all true patriots, all lovers of the Union, South, or North—hasn't the whole country, except the Southern and Northern disunionists, every thing to lose by it?

We have said that it might have been foreseen, that a union of parties at the South by means of slavery agitation would be followed by an antagonistic union of the North. It was foreseen and predicted long ago—eighteen years ago—by a distinguished statesman, now dead, John Bell, who, for very few years after the agitation had been commenced at the South by Democratic politicians. In a letter written by Mr. Bell in 1840, to the Hon. Geo. R. Gilmer, and published at the time, Mr. Bell said:—

"What ought to be the measure of indignation and punishment which should be dealt out to these hollow and false guardians of Southern interests, who will for the sake of a trifling party advantage, put every thing to hazard by perpetual agitation? For there is and always has been quite as much to be apprehended in this sultry fever, as there is in agitating the question on political account in the South, as from the Abolitionists themselves."

I have been a member of Congress, as you know, from the commencement of the agitation upon this subject. I have witnessed all that has taken place in Congress in relation to it. I saw, and I think I fully understand, the game that was playing by some gentlemen; but I was not inclined to take part in it because I thought the stakes too high.

It was a common impression that the first movements of the Abolitionists of the North were not looked upon with any deep regret by a portion of our fellow-citizens of the South. The fanatic spirit was rather provoked than depressed. The North without doubt was freely charged with a settled feeling of hostility to Southern interests and institutions; and many injurious reflections were cast upon their motives calculated to give strength to the cause of the fanatics by uniting with them a more rational and calculating class of the Northern people. The motive in this policy in the South, to what extent it was adopted, was beyond all doubt to combine the South and South-West more closely in their thought the experiment was made only for it struck me that the ambitious aspirants of the North should take it into their heads to play the same sort of game in retaliation, the South would soon be thrown into a settled minority, and be forthwith deprived of political power."

Mr. Seward, in his Rochester speech, boasted that whereas, but a short time ago, there were but three of his set in the Senate, and six in the House of Representatives, there were now twenty of them in the Senate and a hundred in the House. Thus, on the subject of slavery agitation prepared and cultivated by Southern Democratic politicians for the most selfish party purposes, did there spring up in a night, as it were, full grown, this gigantic plant of Republicanism—its roots quickly extending themselves deep, deep down in the Northern soil, and its branches spreading over the whole Northern land.

Not only did the Southern Democratic leaders thus force into existence and build up the Republican party, but they, or the most of them, are far from desiring to see that organization broken up, and would be very far from pursuing any course of policy, the tendency of which would be to break it up. They want to retain their power at the South, and they want the Republican party to sear the honest people of the South with, and to frighten them into remaining united under their lead; and if need be they will present new and further slavery issues for the express purpose of keeping up agitation, and thereby keeping the Republican party together—thus playing into the hands of Mr. Seward, and other ultra leaders of his party.

But what will the people of the South say to so impudently a course of policy? Can they see nothing in the degraded, in the near proximity to the humiliating danger of the North, and the South being divided into two sectional parties? Have they any thing to gain by it? Haven't they—haven't all true patriots, all lovers of the Union, South, or North—hasn't the whole country, except the Southern and Northern disunionists, every thing to lose by it?

We have said that it might have been foreseen, that a union of parties at the South by means of slavery agitation would be followed by an antagonistic union of the North. It was foreseen and predicted long ago—eighteen years ago—by a distinguished statesman, now dead, John Bell, who, for very few years after the agitation had been commenced at the South by Democratic politicians. In a letter written by Mr. Bell in 1840, to the Hon. Geo. R. Gilmer, and published at the time, Mr. Bell said:—

"What ought to be the measure of indignation and punishment which should be dealt out to these hollow and false guardians of Southern interests, who will for the sake of a trifling party advantage, put every thing to hazard by perpetual agitation? For there is and always has been quite as much to be apprehended in this sultry fever, as there is in agitating the question on political account in the South, as from the Abolitionists themselves."

I have been a member of Congress, as you know, from the commencement of the agitation upon this subject. I have witnessed all that has taken place in Congress in relation to it. I saw, and I think I fully understand, the game that was playing by some gentlemen; but I was not inclined to take part in it because I thought the stakes too high.

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Politics of the Day.—The Slave Question.—The Democratic Party.—What has the South Gained?

[From the Lynchburg Virginian.] As the Presidential election approaches, the Democracy are again raising the cry that there must be an union of the South for the purpose of resisting a sectional party of the North. They are again repeating the old song, that the rights of the South are in danger, and that no other party, saving and excepting the Democracy, is capable of defending and protecting those rights from the inroads of Abolitionism.

We believe it is more from the force of habit than anything else, that the Democracy resort to this old plea. They surely do not mean to say that the rights of the South are any more secure now—or any less in danger—than they were twenty years ago. Though the Democracy have been in undisturbed possession of the Government for thirty years (excepting the Presidency for a brief period), and though the South has been losing ground, comparatively, all the time, the party still has the assurance to claim that it is the only one capable of protecting Southern institutions.

Passing that the Democracy will, in the next Presidential canvass, repeat the old story about their peculiar "soundness" in respect of Southern rights, our able contemporary of the Nashville Patriot proceeds to block their game at once, by showing up the hollow and insincerity of their professions, and the